

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 remain pending in the present application.

Restriction Requirement

The Office Action has set forth a restriction requirement alleging that claims 1-32 are directed to two distinct inventions. Specifically, the Office Action alleged that claims 1-18 are drawn to a substrate structure (Group I), and that claims 19-32 (Group II) are drawn to a method for underfilling a chip. In response to this requirement, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-18 drawn to a substrate structure, without traverse. Applicant has canceled claims 19-32.

Election of Species Requirement

The Office Action has also issued an Election of Species Requirement between the following alleged species:

Feature A:

A1: X shape channel

A2: Cross shape channel

Feature B:

B1: with shaft

B2: without shaft

The following table identifies the claims that read on each species:

Feature	Species	Claims
A1	X shape channel	Claims 1-5, 7-13, and 15-18
A2	Cross shape channel	Claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14-18
B1	With shaft	Claims 1-18
B2	Without shaft	Claims 1-8 and 11-16

It is noted that the election of species requirement is specific to Group I (claims 1-18) from the restriction requirement. With regard to the election of species requirement, the Office Action has alleged that claims 1-18 are directed to four patentably distinct species. A first alleged species (A1B1) covered by claims 1-5, 7-13, and 15-18, a second alleged species (A1B2) is covered by claims 1-4, 6-8, 11-12, and 14-16. A third alleged species (A2B1) is covered by claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14-18, and a forth alleged species (A2B2) is covered by claims 1-4, 6-8, 11-12, and 14-16. However, this election of species requirement is respectfully traversed. However, consistent with the PTO requirements regarding species elections, Applicants provisionally elect species 1 (claims 1-5, 7-13, and 15-18). With regard to this elected species, claims 1 and 11 are generic, as claims 1 and 11 are independent claims for claims 2-10 and 12-18, which disclose the metal trace structure including a central portion with arms radiating outwardly therefrom and contain the metal trace structure with/without shaft.

As recited above, claims 1 and 11 are currently generic and cover four species. Therefore, claims 2-10 and 12-18 should be allowed, if claims 1 and 11 are determined to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all pending claims are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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